

I am very disturbed by Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to have their stations air this anti-Kerry smear documentary days before the election. What a blatant example of the dangers of media consolidation. I would be just as upset if George Soros bought a bunch of stations and ran smear programs against Bush.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.